**STUDENT GOVERNMENT BOARD**

**MINUTES**

**October 16, 2012**

1. **ROLL CALL**

President Landreneau called the meeting of October 16, 2012 to order at 8:45 pm. Board members Genus, Hallinan, Louderback, McGrath, Murdoch, Rothenberger, and Samudzi were present. Chair members Nites, Stavrakos, Mallampalli, Brown, Meyer, Beecher, Crawford, and Held were present. Board member Armstrong was late, and Transportation and Safety chair White was not excused.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of October 9, 2012 were approved.

1. **PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

President Landreneau reported that on the night of Monday, October 15th, he and Governmental Relations chair Beecher attended the first PASS teleconference. He explained that PASS stands for the Pennsylvania Association of State-Related Students, a collaboration for all the state-related universities in Pennsylvania—Pitt, Penn State, Lincoln, and Temple—where the four Student Government Boards/Student Government Associations meet every semester. He stated that they had spoken about the Temple University visit, which is currently in the works, and they also talked about plans for next spring, including the past rally that has occurred over the past 2 years. He reported that he will further discuss this with the Board.

He then briefly discussed the upcoming SGB election, and reiterated for everyone who is running to keep their campaigns clean. In regards to the SGB website, he met with the Webmaster, Mahen Seneviratne, on Tuesday, October 16th, and in the next week Mahen will be completely re-doing the format of the SGB website. He stated that if anyone wants to know more about that then they can talk to him about it after the meeting.

He then congratulated Community Outreach chair Mallampalli for the hard work she has put into PMADD to make this the best PMADD day ever. He reminded everyone who signed up to be there on Saturday, October 20th. Lastly, he talked about a professor, Dr. Metzger, who passed away over the previous weekend. He stated that if any student knew the professor, they are welcome to come to the viewing, which will be Friday, October 19th at 11:00 a.m.

1. **SUBMITTED AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no Submitted Agenda Items.

1. **BOARD REPORTS**
2. **Olivia Armstrong**

Board member Armstrong had no report.

1. **Halim Genus**

Board member Genus had no report.

1. **Julie Hallinan**

Board member Hallinan reported that she has been working with Matt Schaff and Student Payment to have financial literacy info sessions. She showed everyone a flyer that Matt Schaff made, and stated that if anyone is interested, then they could see Allocations chair Nites, who had extra flyers on hand. She mentioned that there are three dates in October and four in November, and all of the sessions will have different themes. They will be one- hour long sessions about credit cards, checking accounts, how to establish a credit score, long-term budgeting, etc.

She then reported that she met with Dr. Earle from Housing, and Jody and Susan from Sodexo on Thursday, October 11th, to talk about big changes to the meal plans for next year. She reported that they adjusted the meal plans to improve the cost per swipe. There are a few proposed changes, one of which is to completely eliminate the third tier, which is one of the most expensive plans. She added that they are also suggesting making it a requirement for sophomores living on campus to purchase in the top two tiers. She stated that all together prices and numbers of dining dollars will be adjusted for all tiers, but she could not provide any specific numbers due to confidentiality. She promised students that there is a better dollar value for the meal plans. Further, she reported that Dr. Earle proposed that dining dollars will be able to roll over from the fall to spring semester, but not from the spring to fall. In order for the amount to roll over, students must either stay at the same meal plan they have during the fall or move up. She stated that if anyone has any feedback, then they could approach her after the meeting. She ended by announcing that she will be meeting with Dr. Earle again in two weeks, and knows that he would like to make these changes take place at the beginning of November this year so that they can have them in place for the fall of 2013.

1. **Gordon Louderback**

Board member Louderback reported that he has been working on getting posters in every residence hall the day of the election which will remind students where and when to vote. He encouraged students to vote as early as possible, and mentioned that there will be reminders on the TV screens around the William Pitt Union, Cathedral of Learning, and Litchfield Towers Lobby to tell students where they can go to vote.

He then reported that he and Board member McGrath have been working on something they can do for breast cancer awareness during the last football game in October. He stated that they may try to get pink headbands for the entire student section if they can get the funding for it.

President Louderback interjected to mention that on Monday, October 22nd at Nordy’s Place, there will be another watch party for the final presidential debate. He apologized that they didn’t move the meeting for the presidential debate happening tonight, October 16th, and explained that they chose not to move this meeting because on November 6th they will be moving this public meeting to November 5th so that students can watch the election results the night of November 6th in Nordy’s Place. He stated that if anyone wants to know more, they could speak with Governmental Relations chair Beecher.

1. **Megan McGrath**

Board member McGrath had no report.

1. **Alex Murdoch**

Board member Murdoch encouraged all students who are signed up to come out to PMADD, and stated that they moved the time back by an hour to make sure students attend. He added that this is Alcohol Awareness week, and so encouraged students to attend the events occurring throughout the week, including the Non-Alcoholic Mix- Off taking place in the Schenley Quad, tonight, October 16th, until 10:00 p.m.

1. **Natalie Rothenberger**

Board member Rothenberger reported that Gluten Free My Campus had a successful carnival today, October 16th, which she and Board member Louderback attended, representing the Food Committee. She hopes that Gluten Free My Campus and Food Committee can do more events together in the future. She then added that today, October 16th, was the second day for the I Heart My Computer event, and she hopes that everyone has stopped by.

She then reported that she met with Sean Ahearn last week to talk about the Student Events Calendar, which they are revamping to add an RSS feed, which would make it easier for student groups to directly submit their event information onto the calendar. They are also looking into a filter option for the calendar, so that students can pick and choose what they want to read.

Also, she stated that she is currently meeting with various people across campus to discuss the white board front for Posvar Hall, and to determine the types of white board costs. Last, she reiterated what a great job Community Outreach chair Mallampalli has done for PMADD, and she is expecting it to be the best PMADD ever.

1. **Zoe Samudzi**

Board member Samudzi reported that she has been speaking with the head of purchasing services, and that they are currently compiling language for some sort of legislation or support on behalf of Purchasing Services. She also met with the Academic Calendar Committee about their reading days proposal. However, she explained that due to many built-in constraints in the academic calendar, it will not be possible to incorporate reading days into the calendar. She stated though that they will try to see if they can find some other alternatives.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. **ALLOCATIONS**

Allocations chair Nites announced that there is a new advertisement opportunity for student organizations on campus. John Hotter, the business manager of the Pitt News, approached allocations about having groups advertise through a banner on the front page that will cost $160. This will now be available to all student groups. He also announced that the deadline for budgets is quickly approaching, and will be due Friday, October 26th.

1. **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

Academic Affairs chair Stavrakos announced that he recently had a meeting with one of his committee members, Dean Humphrey and Kenyon Bonner to discuss new study spaces in the Union. At the beginning of next semester there will be new furniture and new study spots. The University is also working to make the internet in the library faster.

1. **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

Community Outreach chair Mallampalli reminded everyone that this Saturday is PMADD. Everyone should report to the Union at 9:45 a.m. so that they are ready to leave by 10:00 a.m.

1. **ELECTIONS**

Elections chair Brown reminded everyone that packets are due Wednesday at 5:00 p.m., both the electronic packet and hard copy. Campaign workshop will be at 2:00 p.m. in the room across from SGB and slate forms will be out on Wednesday, October 17th as well.

1. **ENVIRONMENTAL RELATIONS**

Environmental Relations chair Meyer is meeting with Board member Louderback about a green fund project that was proposed last year. Meyer and her committee are also working to increase recycling efforts in South Oakland.

1. **GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS**

Governmental Relations chair Beecher mentioned that they were able to have their first phone conference with the members of the state related schools, which was very productive. He commended Board member Louderback for his work with voter booth areas so that students know where to go. They will also be hosting a post-election watch party on November 6th with many different activities, a watch party for the final presidential debate, and a debate against the college Democrats, Republicans and Libertarians on Wednesday, October 24th.

1. **JUDICIAL**

Judicial chair Crawford had no report.

1. **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Public Relations chair Held reported that she is working with Elections chair Brown on new advertising for this upcoming SGB election.

1. **TRANSPORTATION AND SAFETY**

Transportation and Safety chair White was not present.

1. **NEW BUSINESS**
2. **Allocations Recommendations**

**#7275 Panther Club Field Hockey - $800.00**

Allocations recommendation was to approve in full.

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

**#7277 Steel City Bhangra - $1,486.89**

Allocations recommendation was to deny in full.

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

**#7278 Steel City Bhangra - $1,490.03**

Allocations recommendation was to approve $1,1142.20 and to deny $347.83.

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

**#7285 Original Magazine - $5,760.00**

Allocations recommendation was to approve in full.

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

**#7287 Quidditch Club of Pittsburgh - $2,816.10**

Allocations recommendation was to approve in full.

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

**#7288 Hillel - $3,941.50**

Allocations recommendation was to approve in full.

The motion was seconded.

The motion did not carry.

**#7290 P.I.S.T. - $3,411.01**

Allocations recommendation was to deny in full.

The motion was seconded.

The motion did not carry.

**#7291 P.I.S.T. - $1,522.02**

Allocations recommendation was to approve $1,324.02 and to deny $198.00

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

**#7292 P.I.S.T. - $3,200.00**

Allocations recommendation was to approve in full.

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

**#7293 P.I.S.T. - $3,200.00**

Allocations recommendation was to approve in full.

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

**#7294 P.I.S.T. - $3,200.00**

Allocations recommendation was to deny in full.

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

1. **Budget Modification**

**#7296 Asian Students Alliance - $2,948.31**

Allocations recommendation was to approve in full.

The motion was seconded.

The motion did not carry.

1. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

President Landreneau went over the revisions from the Allocations Manuel that would revise the section which reads “SGB may not fund the following for certified Student Organizations…” that is followed by a list. The revised version would change numbers 19 and 20 to read as follows respectfully: “We cannot fund for Spring Break travel unless it is required. Organizations must provide explanatory documentation for its necessity” and “SGB may not fund for certified competitive Club B teams”. He also introduced an amendment to the Allocations Manuel, which reads as follows, “SGB is permitted to fund on and off campus activities for sports clubs, including competitions. SGB is established at $5,000 per year funding limit for expenses relating to competitions. Sports clubs, however, do not automatically receive $5,000 for competition expenses and SGB may by exception approve more than $5,000 for things such as Nationals.”

Board member Louderback moved to amend “SGB may not fund for certified competitive Club B teams”. The language will now read SGB may not fund for certified competitive Club B teams for competition.

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

President Landreneau moved to pass the Allocations revisions.

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

Judicial chair Crawford introduced a referendum vote come SGB election, which states “During each University of Pittsburgh Student Government Board Election eight Board members and a President are chosen to serve the student body. However, undergraduate students of the University of Pittsburgh are only able to cast votes for five Board members and a President. Students at the University should be allowed to put together a vote that consists of a board that they find to personally meet their needs. Therefore the Student Government Board Judicial Committee suggests an increase in the number of candidates who students can vote for to meet such criteria. This referendum proposes that students have the ability to vote for all eight Board members and a President, instead of the current five and the President, enabling students to decide who will directly be representing them.”

Board member McGrath is against this referendum in fear of seeing a monopolized board in the future.

The motion was not passed.

1. **OPEN FLOOR**

Board member Louderback announced that on Thursday, October 18th at 1:30 p.m. outside of Market Central, there will be a good-bye party for Chef Matt, the head chef at Market Central, who got promoted to corporate Sodexo. He mentioned that Chef Matt served the Food Committee well, and asked students to wish him well at the farewell party.

Board member Samudzi announced that on Thursday, October 18th from 8-10:00 p.m. in the WPU Assembly Room, STAND will be hosting a cultural event for Conga Week, with a music and dance performance by the Congalese group, Wacongo Dance Company. The group will also be discussing their experiences back in the Congo, as well as their experiences here in the U.S.

Board member Rothenberger announced that on Friday, October 19th there will be the sleep-in for the homeless through Community Human Services. She encouraged students to stop by briefly to get better educated on homelessness in the city of Pittsburgh.

Keely McCaskie, the Vice President of the Campus Women’s Organization, announced that they will be hosting their big annual event, Take Back the Night, on Tuesday October 23rd and Wednesday October 24th. She explained that the purpose is to stop sexual violence against women in Pittsburgh. On Tuesday, October 23rd at 8:45 p.m. in the WPU Ballroom, they will have an educational, anti-sexual assault workshop. On Wednesday, October 24th at 7:00 p.m. in the WPU Ballroom they will gather together for their rally, then march through South Oakland, and reconvene in the WPU Ballroom for free pizza.

Trisha, the President of Rainbow Alliance, first thanked everyone for coming to National Coming Out Week. She then added that on Thursday, October 18th they will have a movie night to watch “Were the World Mine,” in room 548 of the William Pitt Union.

Dean Humphrey announced that there will be Dean’s Hours on Thursday, October 18th.

1. **PRESIDENT’S REMARKS**

President Landreneau stated, “Hallelujah it’s a great day to be alive”.

1. **ADJOURNMENT**

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting.

The motion was seconded.

The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:41 p.m.

cc: Student Government Board Members, Student Government Board Committee Chairs, K. Bonner, K. Humphrey, T. Milani